

19. Injury, Poisoning and Certain Other Consequences of External Causes

Reference

Lee KH, Kim JE, Youn HM, et al. Comparison of the treatment effect between Oriental medicine therapy and Oriental and Western medicine combination therapy on traffic accident patients. *Daehan-Yakchim-Hakhoeji (Journal of Pharmacopuncture)* 2007; 10(3): 91–9 (in Korean with English abstract).

1. Objectives

To compare the effect of Oriental medicine therapy with that of Oriental-Western combination therapy on recovery from injury due to traffic accidents.

2. Design

Randomized controlled trial (RCT).

3. Setting

One Oriental hospital (Dongueui Universtiy Ulsan Oriental Medical Hospital), Republic of Korea.

4. Participants

Sixty-one patients hospitalized more than 2 weeks for neck pain, shoulder-back pain, and low back pain due to nonspecific cervical and lumbar injuries and intervertebral disc herniation suffered as a result of traffic accident trauma. Patients with injuries occurring more than 6 months earlier, age lower than 10 or higher than 70 years, anamnestic spine fracture, spinal tumor, psychiatric disorders, immune disorders, diabetes mellitus, heart diseases, kidney diseases, pregnancy (lactiferous phase), infectious skin diseases, drug dependency, and under treatment with adrenocortical steroids and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, were excluded.

5. Intervention

Arm 1: Acupuncture applied to the Fengchi (GB20, 風池), Jianjing (GB21, 肩井), Tianzhu (BL10, 天柱), Gaohuangshu (BL43, 膏肓), Tianzong (SI11, 天宗), Shenshu (BL23, 腎俞), Qihai (BL24, 氣海俞), Dachangshu (BL25, 大腸俞), Weizhong (BL40, 委中), Kunlun (BL60, 崑崙), etc. acupoints + bee venom pharmacopuncture (蜂藥鍼) + drug treatment + cupping therapy + physiotherapy (n=32).

Arm 2: Acupuncture applied to the Fengchi (GB20, 風池), Jianjing (GB21, 肩井), Tianzhu (BL10, 天柱), Gaohuangshu (BL43, 膏肓), Tianzong (SI11, 天宗), Shenshu (BL23, 腎俞), Qihai (BL24, 氣海俞), Dachangshu (BL25, 大腸俞), Weizhong (BL40, 委中), Kunlun (BL60, 崑崙), etc. acupoints + bee venom pharmacopuncture (蜂藥鍼) + drug treatment + cupping therapy + physiotherapy + Western therapies such as diclofenac beta-dimethyl aminoethanol, etc (n=29).

6. Main Outcome Measures

Pain evaluated on a visual analogue scale (VAS), Neck Disability Index (NDI), Oswestry Disability Index (ODI), and Roland Morris Disability Scale (RMDS).

7. Main Results

In Arm 1, the change in average VAS, NDI, ODI, and RMDS scores from baseline was 1.72, 1.56, 0.94, and 0.06, respectively after 1 week of treatment and 2.94, 3.44, 2.44, and 0.88 after two weeks of treatment, respectively. In Arm 2, this was 1.86, 0.83, 0.45, and 0.21 after 1 week and 2.72, 1.69, 0.59, 0 and 72 after two weeks. This change was slightly larger in Arm 1 than Arm 2, but the between-group differences at both 1 and 2 weeks were without significance.

8. Conclusions

Oriental medicine therapy and Oriental-Western medicine combination therapy have similar efficacies in patients suffering traffic accident injuries.

9. Safety assessment in the article

Not mentioned.

10. Abstractor's comments

This study verified the similar efficacies of Oriental medicine therapy and Oriental-Western medicine combination therapy. The diseases for which Oriental-Western medicine combination therapy is effective need to be identified.

11. Abstractor and date

Cho JH, 16 July 2010.